THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WEST SUFFOLK.

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1947.

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Thingoe in the County of West Suffolk for the year ending 31st December, 1947.

Public Health Offices,
8, Whiting Street,
Bury St. Edmunds.

October, 1948.

To:

The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Thingoe.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Herewith I beg to submit for your favourable consideration my twelfth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being for the year ended 31st December, 1947.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT H. CLAYTON.

M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical - One part-time Medical Officer of Health,

Robert H. Clayton, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H. (Durham). Cert. Mental Deficiency and Allied Subjects (London), appointed in 1936.

This Officer does not engage in private practice but holds in addition the following appointments:- Medical Officer of Health, Newmarket U.D.C., Cosford R.D.C., Thedwastre R.D.C., and Mildenhall R.D.C.

(b) Others - One Sanitary Inspector,

S. M. Casson, A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A., Meat and Other Foods Diploma R.S.I. Appointed February 1946.

Mr. Casson is also Surveyor to the Council.

One additional Sanitary Inspector,

R. L. Barker, M.S.I.A., Meat and Other Foods Diploma R.S.I. Appointed 1st March, 1946.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS. Area .. .. .. 106,500 acres.

	1947.	(1946)
Registrar General's estimate of the resident population	16,320	(16,120)
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	5,050	(4,969)
Rateable Value	£57,994	(£57,403)
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£255	(£238)

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

Live Births.	Total.		Male.		Female.	
	1947.	(1946)	1947.	(1946)	1947.	(1946)
Legitimate	321	(291)	169	(149)	152	(142)
Illegitimate	23	(28)	9	(12)	14	(16)
Stillbirths.						
Legitimate	8	(6)	4	(3)	4	(3)
Illegitimate	2	(1)	1	(1)	1	(-)
Deaths.	234	(173)	124	(87)	110	(86)

	Thingoe.		England & Wales.	
	1947.	(1946)	1947.	(1946)
Birth Rate. (Live births per 1000 civilian population)	21.1	(19.8)	20.5	(19.1)
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 population.	0.61	(0.43)	0.50	(-)
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 total (live & stillbirths).	28.2	(21.5)	-	(0.50)
Death Rate per 1000 resident population.	14.3	(10.7)	12.0	(11.5)
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year.				
All infants per 1000 live births.	34.9	(21.9)	41	(43)
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate births.	34.3	(20.6)	-	(-)
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate births.	43.5	(35.7)	-	(-)

12 deaths of infants under 1 year occurred, (5 males, 6 females legitimate and 1 female illegitimate), no death from Maternal Causes (Headings 29 and 30), 32 deaths from Cancer, no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough or from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) were recorded.

On page 5 is a table giving the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar General's figures.

The deaths are classified under the headings given in the New Abridged List of Causes, as used in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, as set out on Page XXXIX of the Manual of the International List of Causes of Deaths - 1938.

The total number of Live Births to Thingoe Residents during 1947 was 344 of which 144 were born in Thingoe and 200 elsewhere.

The number of Stillbirths in 1947 was 10 and in 1946 the corresponding figure was 7.

Illegitimate Births declined from 48 in 1945, to 28 in 1946 and to 23 in 1947.

234 deaths (173 in 1946) occurred during 1947.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age during 1947 were twelve - the corresponding figure in 1946 was 7. The twelve infants died seven on the first day, three others in the first week, one in the first month and one in the second month. All the eleven youngest deaths were related to Prematurity or Birth Injury.

Only two other children of pre-school age died - a boy 2 years old from Pneumococcal Meningitis and a boy 3 years old from Accidental Burns.

No deaths of school children occurred, neither was there any further deaths in the nonage.

The age and sex distribution of deaths is indicated in the table below.

		Male.		Female.		Total of Male & Female.		Male & Female approximate % of Total.		
		1947.	1946.	1947.	1946.	1947.	1946	1947.	1946.	
	Under 1 year	5	(2)	7	(5)	12	(7)	5%	(4%)	
	1 year & " 5 years	2	(-)	-	(-)	2	(-)	1%	(-)	
	5 years " " 15 "	-	(-)	-	(1)	-	(1)	-	(1%)	
	15 " " " 25 "	1	(1)	-	(1)	1	(2)	½%	(1%)	
	25 " " " 45 "	5	(5)	7	(1)	12	(6)	5%	(3%)	
	45 " " " 65 "	25	(11)	18	(15)	43	(26)	18%	(15%)	
65 & over.	65 " " " 70 "	18	(15)	8	(8)	26	(21)	11%	(12%)	70% in 1947.
	70 " " " 75 "	19	(17)	14	(9)	38	(26)	16%	(15%)	
	75 " " " 80 "	17	(18)	14	(15)	31	(33)	13%	(19%)	
164 in 1947.	80 " " " 85 "	13	(13)	19	(12)	32	(25)	13%	(14%)	
	85 " " " 90 "	12	(5)	16	(8)	28	(13)	12%	(8%)	76% in 1946.
	90 " " " 95 "	6	(1)	7	(6)	13	(7)	5%	(4%)	
(131 in 1946)	95 " " " 100 "	1	(1)	-	(5)	1	(6)	½%	(4%)	
		124	(87)	110	(86)	234	(173)	100%	(100%)	

An increase in the number of deaths registered as due to Cerebral Haemorrhage is taking place in Thingoe and other West Suffolk districts - a table is given below for the five Districts for which I am Medical Officer of Health, to illustrate this trend.

	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
Thingoe R.D.C.	9	16	9	11	25	19	24	14	14	22	23	36
Newmarket U.D.C.	11	4	11	7	10	16	17	8	18	14	16	13
Cosford R.D.C.	8	10	5	4	14	16	16	16	14	9	25	14
Mildenhall R.D.C.	10	6	6	11	18	15	17	14	15	16	20	12
Thedwastre R.D.C.	NR	NR	3	7	22	15	12	19	12	11	9	12
TOTAL:			34	40	89	81	86	71	73	72	93	87

N.R. The figures for these years were not recorded locally.

On page 4 is a table giving statistics for 1947 and for the previous year, 1946, as also for the decade from 1936 to 1945. From this table have been prepared the decade figures which allow comparison with this period and the year 1947.

	Rateable Value.	Penny Rate Product.	No. of inhabited houses.	Registrar-General's Estimate Population.	Total Deaths.	Deaths under one year.		Births.		Stillbirths.	
						Legit-imate.	Illegit-imate.	Legit-imate.	Illegit-imate.	Legit-imate.	Illegit-imate.
1936.	£34,082	£136	4,020	15,240	184	5	Nil	190	12	8	Nil
1937.	£37,521	£170	4,074	15,560	184	3	2	214	8	7	2
1938.	£42,877	£167	4,463	15,470	192	3	1	188	10	8	1
1939.	£43,798	£194	4,683	15,370	206	5	Nil	248	11	8	Nil
1940.	£53,231	£230	4,974	16,310	249	14	Nil	246	9	8	Nil
1941.	£49,943	£223	4,954	17,250	230	12	1	283	27	4	4
1942.	£51,034	£220	4,814	17,220	210	14	1	269	17	9	Nil
1943.	£52,971	£225	4,820	17,420	223	9	1	271	35	6	Nil
1944.	£51,637	£229	4,806	16,960	234	18	2	295	40	8	3
1945.	£53,244	£224	4,870	15,930	185	5	3	245	48	5	1
1936 to 1945. TOTALS FOR DECADE.	-	-	-	-	2,097	88	11	2,449	217	71	11
1936 to 1945. ANNUAL AVERAGE DURING DECADE.	£47,034	£202	4,648	16,273	210	9	1	245	22	7	1
1946.	£57,403	£238	4,969	16,120	173	6	1	291	28	6	1
1947.	£57,994	£255	5,050	16,320	234	11	1	321	23	8	2

Below is a table giving the causes and number of deaths in 1947 occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar-General's figures.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.	Deaths at the Sub-joined ages of "RESIDENTS" whether occurring in or beyond the District.															
M = Male F = Female	Under 1 year.		1 and under 5		5 and under 15		15 and under 25		25 and under 45		45 and under 65		65 and upwards		TOTAL Registrar General's figures.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
2. Cerebro-spinal fever.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory system.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	-	3	2
13. Cancer of buccal cavity & oesophagus(M)uterus(F).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	1	-	3	5
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2
15. Cancer of breast.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	4
16. Cancer of all other sites.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	4	9	5	12
17. Diabetes.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	2
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	20	12	22	14
19. Heart Disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	8	-	31	34	40	35
20. Other Diseases of circulatory system.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	6	2	7	4
21. Bronchitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	6	8	6
22. Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	2	4	4	5
23. Other respiratory diseases.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
24. Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	3	1
27. Other digestive diseases.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	2	2
28. Nephritis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	3	1
31. Premature births.	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile diseases.	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
33. Suicide.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
35. Other violent causes.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	2	5	2
36. All other causes.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	2	5	3	10	5
Males.	5	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	25	-	86	-	124	-
Females.	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	18	-	78	-	110

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES. For some years these facilities have been provided, with complete satisfaction, by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Cambridge on payment of a fixed sum. As from 31st March, 1947, however, the Government decided that these facilities should be provided free by the same Laboratory.

(b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES. As in previous years general and maternity cases were removed by the Red Cross Society Ambulances and infectious disease cases by the Stowmarket U.D.C. Ambulance or the ambulance at the hospital to which the patient was admitted.

(c) NURSING IN THE HOME. This work was carried on as in previous years by the Local Nursing Associations. The residents of Thingoe are greatly indebted to the voluntary administrators of these Nursing Associations and to the Nurses who they employ. The Council have endeavoured to show their appreciation by offering a high degree of priority to building licenses required for the improvement of housing for District Nurses.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. No change.

(e) HOSPITALS. The hospitals used by the Thingoe residents are indicated by stating that of the 234 deaths recorded locally 133 took place at the resident's home in Thingoe, 5 at homes of relatives or friends beyond the District, two at Nursing Homes, one on the road and 93 at hospitals as follows:-

41 St. Mary's Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.
45 West Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds.
1 White Lodge Hospital, Newmarket.
1 National Hospital, Holborn.
1 Cottage Hospital, Thetford.
1 Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.
1 Walnuttree Hospital, Sudbury.
2 St. Audry's Hospital, Melton.

Of the 344 total live births to Thingoe residents only 144 took place at the homes of the residents in the Thingoe District - the remaining 200 for the most part occurred either at St. Mary's (P.A.C.) Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds, or at the West Suffolk General Hospital, Bury St. Edmunds - the latter hospital dealing with abnormal cases.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) WATER. The purity and composition of the water being supplied from the Council's seven piped supplies, is indicated in the following table:-

SITE.	NO. TAKEN.				RESULTS.				
	Bact.	Chem.	Bact.		Chemical.				
				pH	Chlorine.	Oxygen absorbed.	Nitrates.	Nitrites.	Hardness
Barrow.	2	2	Satis.	7.4	3.25	.0207	.05	Nil	20.98
			Satis.	7.3	3.2	.0186	Nil	Nil	19.68
Bradfield St.George.	2	2	Satis.	7.3	3.70	.0194	Nil	Nil	19.26
			Satis.	7.4	3.75	.0260	Nil	Nil	20.68
Euston.	2	2	Unsatis.	7.5	2.85	.0330	Nil	Nil	14.64
			Unsatis.	7.5	2.8	.0313	Nil	Nil	14.22
Great Whelnetham.	2	2	Satis.	7.3	3.2	.0192	Nil	Nil	14.42
			Satis.	7.4	3.50	.0314	Nil	Nil	17.26
Ingham.	2	2	Satis.	7.5	4.05	.0227	.05	Nil	20.84
			Satis.	7.4	4.1	.0194	.10		19.68
Ixworth.	2	2	Satis.	7.4	4.65	.0195	Nil	Nil	20.72
			Satis.	7.3	4.45	.0208	Nil	Nil	17.8
Rede.	2	2	Unsatis.	7.1	2.45	.1881	.60	Faint trace	22.35
			Satis.	7.2	2.20	.0198	.35	Nil	20.78

The quantity of water supplied from council bores was not deficient - the amount is indicated in the following table:-

Parish.	Average Daily Pumping Hours.		Average Daily Volume.	
	1947.	1946.	1947.	1946.
ø Barrow.	8½	6½	6,500	5,500
Bradfield St. George.	1¼	1	4,300	3,200
¥ Euston	1½	-	1,500	-
Great Whelnetham.	8	8	22,300	22,300
Ingham.	3	2¾	1,700	1,700
Ixworth.	3½	3	3,500	3,100
Whepstead.	½	½	100	100

ø The plant is fitted also with a windmill in addition to the petrol engine.

7.3% of the houses in Thingoe have a piped water supply and a further 8.0% are within 200 feet of standpipes, as under:-

Parish.	Number of Houses on Piped Supply.	Within 200 feet of Standpipes.
Barningham.	8	-
Barrow.	51	64
Bradfield Combust.	13	15
Bradfield St. George.	30	12
Chedburgh.	-	12
Culford.	17	-
Denham.	1	7
Euston.	1	26
Great Barton.	37	-
Great Saxham.	4	16
Great Whelnetham.	12	49
Hengrave.	14	-
Ingham.	25	26
Ixworth.	78	128
Little Whelnetham.	8	6
Market Weston.	3	-
Rougham.	40	6
Stanningfield.	28	26
Thelnetham.	4	-
Whepstead.	2	10
	379	403

New Supplies and Extensions to Supplies during the Year.

¥ An Ex-Army pumping plant at Euston was taken over during the year and provides one house with a piped supply, and 26 houses by standpipe.

Water main laying to the council house site at Great Whelnetham was completed to serve 24 houses in the immediate future.

The main was extended at Bradfield St. George to 12 council houses.

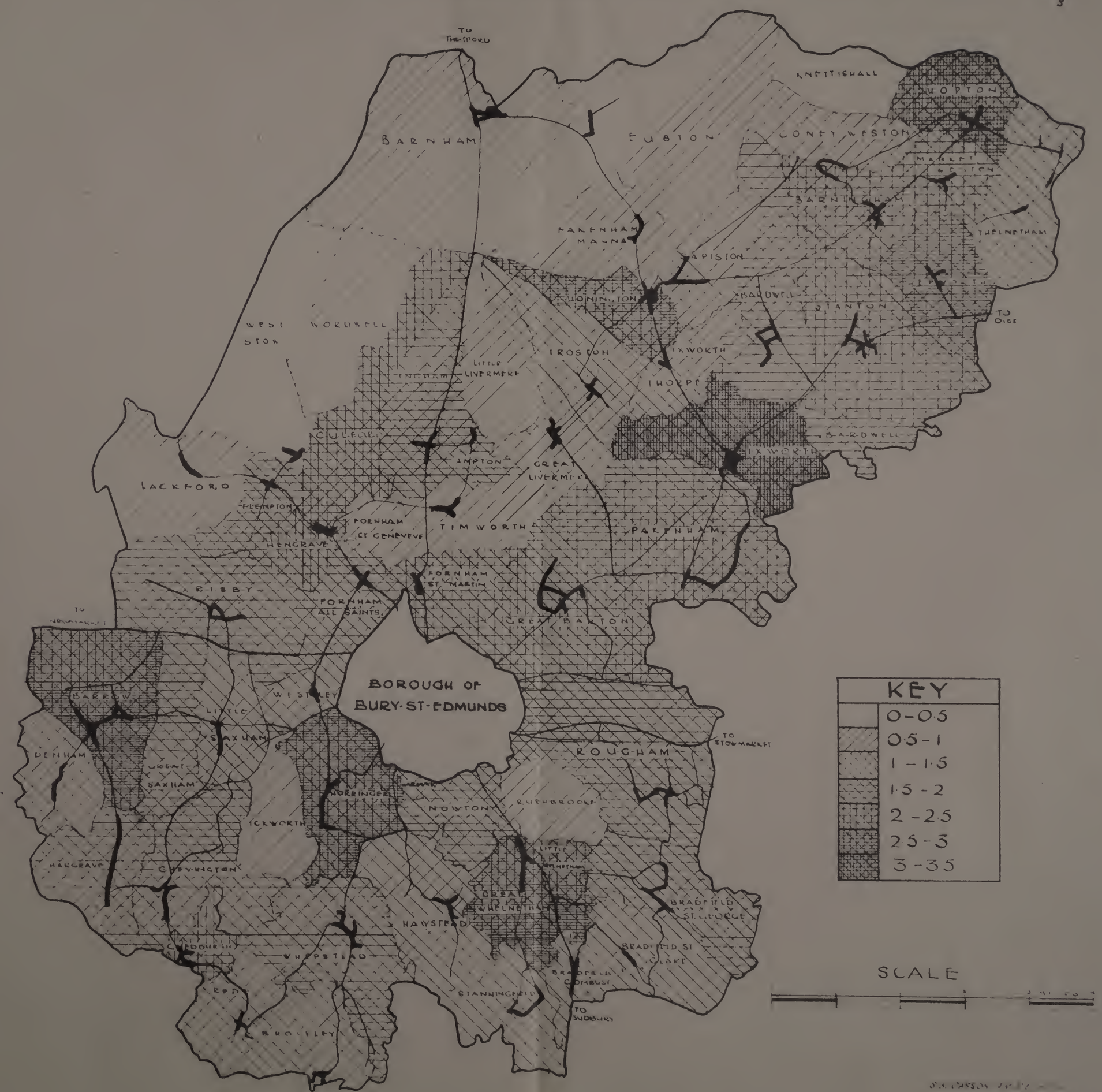
A main was laid to the council house site at Barrow to supply 16 new houses.

The R.A.F. pumping station at Chedburgh was purchased and water was made available to a squatters site.

REF. No. 1

THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MAP SHEWING DENSITY OF POPULATION PER 10 ACRES



Proposed Comprehensive Scheme for District.

On 19th November, 1947, Colonel G. Ewart Rhodes, M.I.C.E., Barrister-at-Law, held a Public Inquiry into the Comprehensive Water Scheme proposed by Thingoe and Thedwastre Rural District Councils.

Mr. A. P. Hazelton, Clerk to the Thingoe Rural District Council, who presented the case for the Council, gave financial estimates showing capital requirements of £642,000 and an annual cost of £36,000 for the scheme, of which Thingoe's share would be somewhat more than two-thirds of these amounts. Mr. Hazelton recalled that the decision to provide a comprehensive scheme for supplying water in pipes to every parish was made in February, 1944, when Engineers were instructed to prepare such a scheme. This, it should be noted, was previous to the introduction to Parliament of the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Bill.

Mr. Blizzard had prepared a preliminary scheme by June, 1944, and in view of the geographical position of the Borough of Bury St. Edmunds it was decided that they be consulted.
Owing to the apparent urgency of the requirements of the Borough an independent scheme has been submitted to the Minister, hence no provision has been made for immediate co-ordination.

Thedwastre R.D.C. who administer 20 parishes on the Eastern border of this district also engaged Mr. Blizzard to prepare a scheme for them and it was agreed that a comprehensive scheme providing supplies for both districts be prepared. Such scheme was prepared and presented to both authorities in January, 1945, and was unanimously accepted and forwarded to the Minister for his observations.

Following an interview with Col. Hill, and other officers, sanction to proceed with the sinking of three trial boreholes was granted on 24th April, 1945. The sinking and proving of these bores was not completed until May, 1946, but each bore provided a very satisfactory supply. The results of these boring were submitted to the Minister, and following a further interview in July, 1946, instructions were given to the Council's Engineers to prepare drawings and bills of quantities for submission for the purpose of Local Inquiry.

The possibility of co-ordinating supplies has been fully explored by all West Suffolk Rural Districts and certain parishes in the northern areas of Clare, Melford and Cosford Rural Districts will be supplied with water taken in bulk from sources in Thingoe. Furthermore, the Gipping (East Suffolk) R.D.C. have accepted in principle a proposal to take water in bulk from the joint scheme.

The Medical Officer of Health furnished evidence as to the primitive sources of water supply still being used for domestic purposes, and to the difficulties experienced by agriculturists, and expressed the opinion that the provision of a comprehensive scheme would allow:-

1. The provision of houses with suitable amenities.
2. A safe water supply to the inhabitants.
3. A safer milk supply.
4. An adequate water supply.
5. Greater comfort and convenience to the inhabitants.
6. Relief of insanitary conditions.

The evidence of Mr. S. M. Casson, our Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, is reproduced hereafter as a valuable record of conditions which existed in our area:-

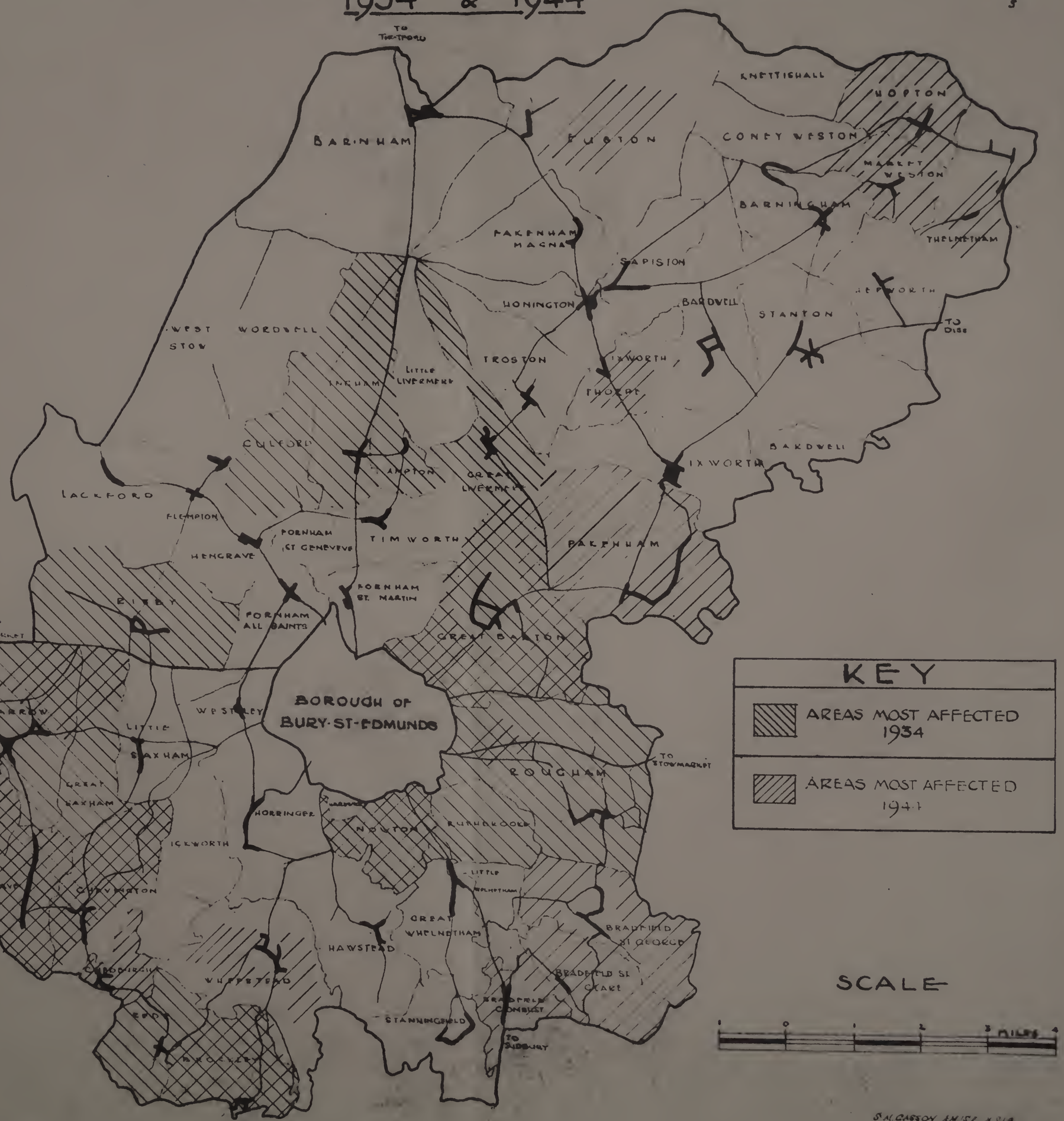
" QUANTITY.

Records show that during the past thirty years the District has been seriously afflicted by drought. 1921 is reported as having first brought considerable hardship, only to be followed subsequently in 1934, 1944 and 1947 by similar occurrences.

REF. No. 2

THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MAP SHEWING AREAS OF DROUGHT 1934 & 1944



S.N. GASSON A.M.I.S.E., A.M.I.A.
SUCKLING - THINGOE R.D.C.
JULY 1947

The whole of the area was without any public water supply as late as 1934, and both domestic and farm users were dependent solely upon wells, springs, ponds, streams and ditches for their drinking water.

In 1934 fourteen of the fiftyeight parishes reported water shortage. The wells which were within the precincts of these villages dried up and the villagers had to carry water from streams and springs up to half a mile or threequarters of a mile away. The farmers were in an even more difficult position, the quantity of water required for their purposes was large, and with the drying up of their ponds and ditches they also had to resort to carting water from other areas. The area so affected is shewn on Map No.2.

At this time the Rural District Council were not in a position to assist in supplying water as they had neither the sources of supply nor the vehicles necessary for carting, and generally speaking the summer of 1934 was a period of great hardship and inconvenience to all persons concerned.

Realising the effects of this drought, the Council commenced schemes of public supply in an effort to prevent a repetition. By 1944, when the next drought period arrived, the Council had in existence public supplies in the parishes of Barrow, Denham, Bradfield St. George, Rougham, Ixworth, Ingham, Great Whelnetham, Little Whelnetham, Rushbrooke, Bradfield Combust, Whepstead and Rede. Because of the scattered nature of the area these plants merely served to supply the population in close proximity, so that during the dry period of 1944 it was evident that the measures taken were insignificant in comparison with the real task. Many parishes again suffered from water shortage, and reference to Map N.2 where such areas are shewn, will indicate how little had in fact been achieved. True, the domestic consumers in the parishes mentioned did not suffer any shortage, but the farmers, who were in most cases outside the radius of supply, were in the same position as in 1934.

The War Agricultural Executive Committee gave assistance to the farmers during this drought by deepening the rapidly drying ponds in an effort to ensure at least some water on the farms. No fewer than 86 ponds were so treated, and the water from these ponds was being used as drinking water for cattle and for cooling milk.

The most recent drought has occurred this year (1947); to-day however, the Council are in a position to give some little assistance to the parishes suffering from shortage, by carting water, in tanks. At the moment of preparing this statement no fewer than 24 points are being supplied with carted water, and every day this drought continues shows an increase in the demand for water to be carted. Apart from the uneconomic expenditure involved, the fact that water is being carted means that too little water is being used. Instead of people being encouraged to use water freely as is desirable, they are being requested to use it sparingly.

I would refer at this stage to Map No.4, which shows the distribution of cattle throughout the area. It should be noticed that three of the four most heavily populated areas are without a public supply.

QUALITY.

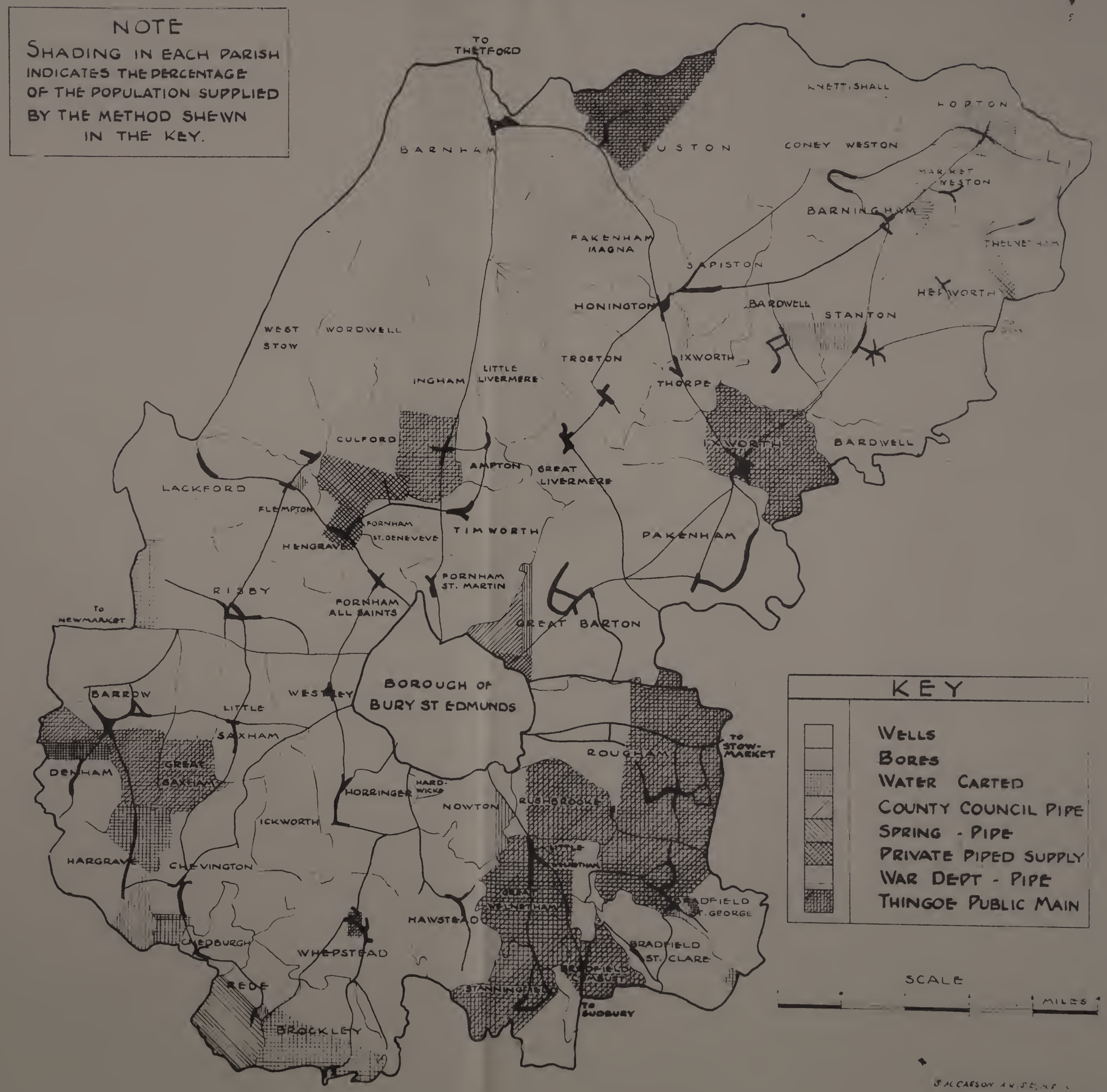
Map No.3 shows the various ways in which the population is supplied with water, indicating the percentage of the population in any particular parish which derives its water from a particular source. The striking feature of the map is the very large area indicating that the inhabitants of these areas are dependent solely upon wells, springs, ponds and ditches for their supply.

Ponds, ditches and streams are at any time suspicious, and most of the wells are shallow, relying for their water upon the upper strata. The construction is mainly of open jointed brickwork for the whole of

REF NO. 3

THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MAP SHEWING MEANS OF WATER SUPPLY



S. A. CARSON A.M.I.S.E., A.R.I.C.
SURVEYOR THINGOE R.D.C.
JULY 1947

their depth, and the levels fluctuate regularly with the density and frequency of rainfall; any continuous dry spell reduces the level of the wells to inches of muddy water. Such wells provide breeding grounds for frogs, snails, etc., and apart from any bacteriological impurity, the presence of these creatures is undesirable. Furthermore, in most cases water has to be lifted by means of a bucket and winch, and the winch superstructures are not normally raised more than two courses of open brickwork from the surrounding ground, with the result that in times of flood, surface water flows in through the open joints and further pollutes the wells. Many instances can be quoted of livestock, cats, rats, etc. having found their way through the wooden covers, been drowned and thereafter contaminating the wells.

The siting of most wells is also a contributory cause of their pollution. They are for the most part situated in the gardens of cottages, and within a few yards of either a vault or a pail closet. Whether pail or vault the result is the same - either the water is contaminated directly from the vault or indirectly when the pail contents are dug into the garden. With the exception of the post-war Council House estates, no drainage exists in any parish, so the above mentioned state of affairs applies equally throughout the District. All the slop water is deposited on the garden, this being the only available disposal place, with the result that this also is likely to find its way into the well and add to the multifarious causes of impurity.

The picture of the district presented in Map No.3 is translated into statistics in Appendix II, from which it will be seen that of the 5,000 houses in the district only 685 are supplied with piped water, and more than half of these obtain their water from standpipes, which means in any case carrying water from anything up to 70 yards.

Shortage of water is not the only reason for water having to be carted by the Council; after last winter's heavy snows and rains many wells, which had previously been nearly dry, filled up again, but subsequent samplings have proved that the quality of the water is unsatisfactory.

Graph Map No.5 shows the number of samples taken in each parish, and the number of such samples which have proved to be unsatisfactory. This latter comparison shows that 68% of all samples taken were unsatisfactory. These samples were taken at random, so this figure is truly representative of the area's well water supplies.

The results of the use of well and carted water is as follows:-

1. Physical hardship to women using winches and pumps.
2. The inconvenience of carting buckets of water long distances.
3. The tendency to use less water than is hygienic because of the aforementioned hardships.
4. The necessity to use as little as possoble from carted water because of the impossibility of carting sufficient to meet demands.
5. The uneconomical expenditure involved in carting even small quantities of water.

PUBLIC SUPPLIES. There is only one plant where duplicate boreholes have been sunk. In the case of a breakdown at any of the other plants there is no reserve supply. Furthermore, the storage capacity at each pumping station is so small in comparison to the daily consumption that it is impossible to carry out repairs before the supply is exhausted. In practice it usually means that the parish is without water for two or three days at least. The water is quite hard, usually about 20°, and contains considerable quantities of iron. The iron content is disconcerting to housewives as deposits give the water a dirty appearance which stains all containers and linen. The plants concerned are too small for this defect to be dealt with econonically.

The Storage capacity and rate of pumping in all plants is too small to be of any value to the fire fighting service should any large outbreak of fire occur.

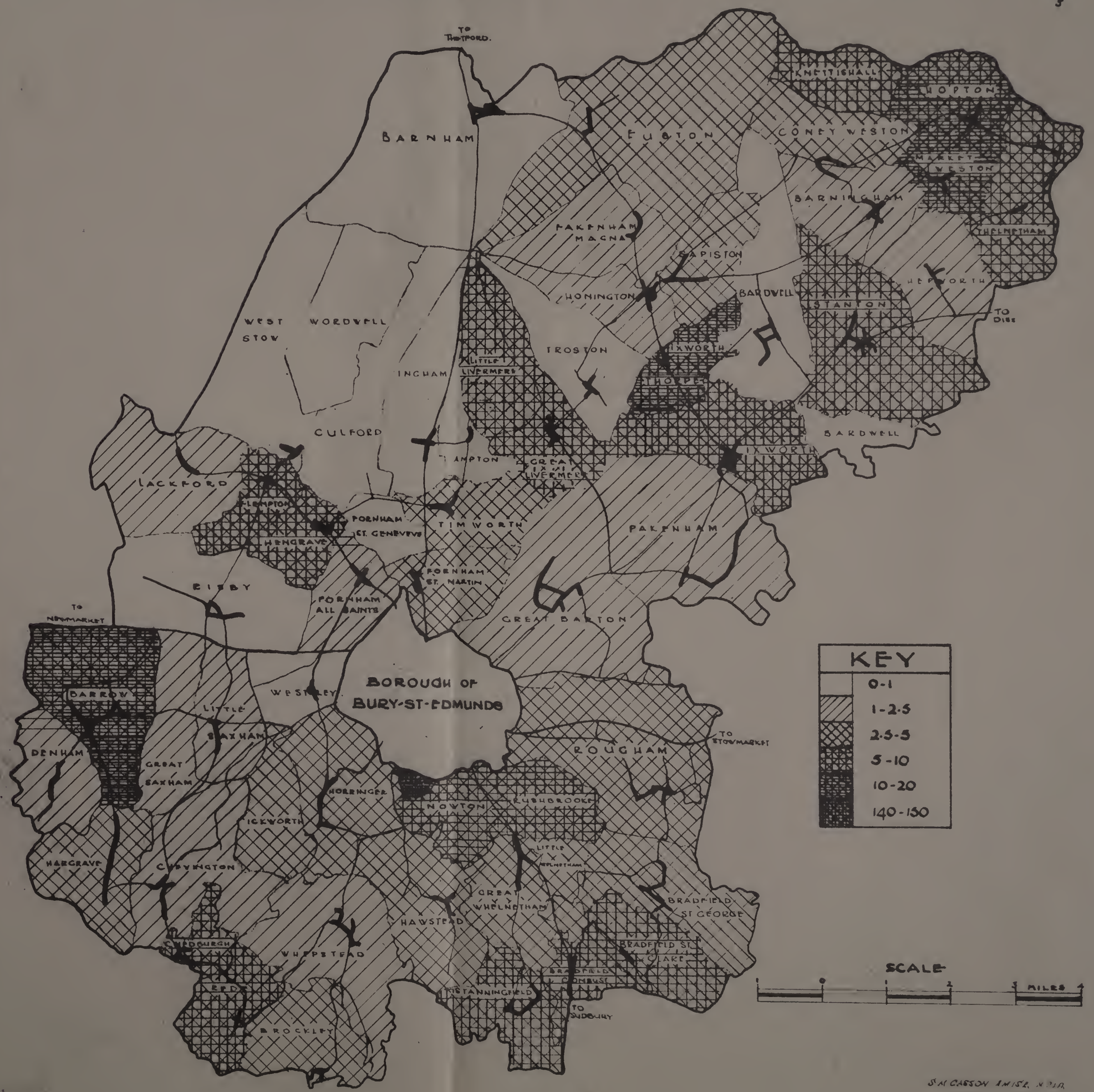
In addition to the public supplies there are 58 dwelling houses in the district being supplied from private bored wells by arrangements with the owners.

CONCLUSION. The development or otherwise of this agricultural area depends upon the acceptance of this proposed scheme. Development of the milk producing farms depends directly upon their being able to have a bountiful supply of pure, cold water, and the manpower to work in these farms will not be forthcoming unless the domestic facilities offered compare favourably with urban areas. The whole of this development can only take place upon the provision of an adequate and wholesome water supply throughout the area.

REF. No. 4

THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MAP SHEWING DENSITY OF CATTLE PER 100 ACRES



S.M. CARSON A.M.I.S.E., N.D.A.
SURVEYOR - THINGOE R.D.C.
JULY 1947

APPENDIX I.

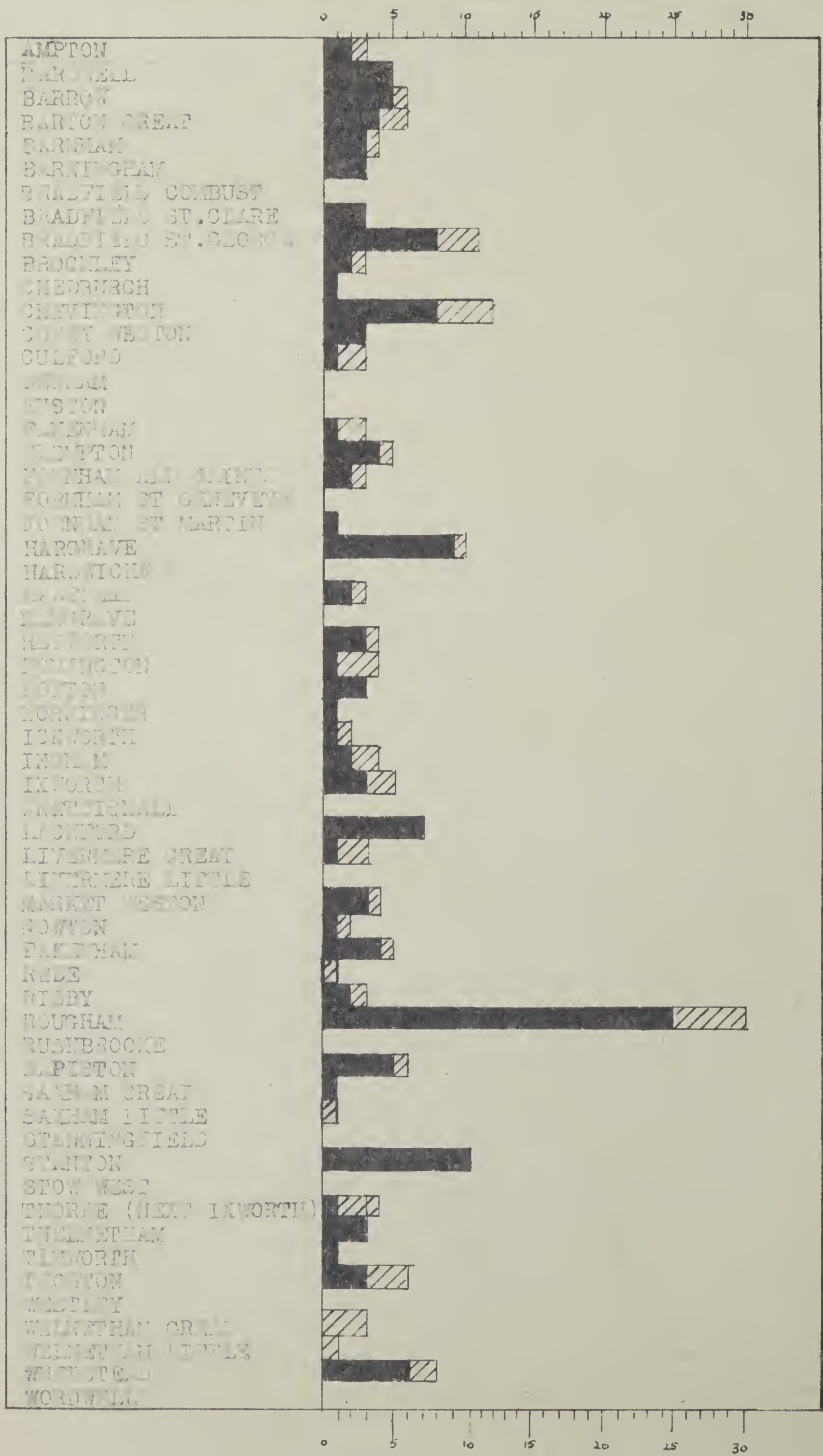
THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.
AREA AND POPULATION TABLE.
(including Cattle population).

PARISHES.	Area in acres.	Population (Estd.)	Population density per 10 acres.	Cattle density per 100 acres.
Ampton.	736	128	1.74	Nil
Bardwell.	3,183	602	1.88	0.62
Barrow.	2,677	785	2.93	11.88
Barton Great.	3,764	799	2.12	2.17
Barnham.	5,291	355	0.67	0.62
Barningham.	1,620	376	2.32	1.29
Bradfield Combust.	829	140	1.68	7.23
Bradfield St.Clare.	1,427	159	1.11	5.95
Bradfield St.George.	1,968	383	1.94	4.88
Brockley.	1,538	203	1.32	3.63
Chedburgh.	371	120	2.10	5.08
Chevington.	2,445	441	1.68	2.21
Coney Weston.	1,351	192	1.42	2.59
Culford.	2,229	538	2.41	0.80
Denham.	1,310	156	1.19	2.06
Euston.	5,410	356	0.66	2.97
Fakenham Magna.	1,854	158	0.70	1.53
Flempton.	947	173	1.82	7.18
Fornham All Saints.	1,535	245	1.59	2.21
Fornham St.Genevieve.	688	67	0.97	Nil
Fornham St.Martin.	1,294	306	2.36	4.56
Hardwick.	114	15	1.31	147.37
Hargrave.	1,781	291	1.63	3.20
Hawstead.	2,304	248	1.07	4.90
Hengrave.	897	185	2.06	11.37
Hepworth.	1,693	444	2.62	2.12
Honington.	1,201	340	2.83	1.74
Hopton.	1,397	480	3.43	12.24
Horringer.	2,212	604	2.73	3.44
Ickworth.	1,258	98	.77	
Ingham.	1,830	309	1.69	0.98
Ixworth.	2,304	756	3.28	6.90
Knettishall.	1,059	46	0.43	8.87
Lackford.	2,338	173	0.74	1.37
Livermere Great.	1,555	197	1.26	6.92
Livermere Little.	1,437	118	0.82	
Market Weston.	979	214	2.19	15.73
Nowton.	1,165	175	1.50	5.40
Pakenham.	3,711	815	2.19	1.59
Rede.	1,239	126	1.01	7.34
Risby.	2,818	434	1.54	0.78
Rougham.	3,977	711	1.78	2.58
Rushbrooke.	1,063	92	0.86	5.45
Sapiston.	1,282	166	1.28	4.49
Saxham Great.	1,450	253	1.74	1.84
Saxham Little.	1,320	141	1.06	
Stanningfield.	1,469	198	1.34	5.92
Stanton.	3,319	683	2.05	6.08
Stow West.	2,941	133	0.45	0.54
Thelnetham.	1,919	284	1.48	5.65
Thorpe.	1,065	120	1.12	19.90
Timworth.	1,375	115	0.83	3.49
Troston.	1,779	202	1.13	0.80
Westley.	685	93	1.36	Nil
Whelnetham Great.	1,495	385	2.57	2.94
Whelnetham Little.	599	155	2.58	
Whepstead.	2,732	429	1.57	2.41
Wordwell.	2,310	163	0.70	Nil
	106,739	17,073	1.6	6.45

REF. No. 5

THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GRAPH SHEWING NUMBER OF WATER SAMPLES TAKEN DURING 1945, 1946 & 1947.



APPENDIX II.

THINGOE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Details of mode of supply of water.

PARISHES.	No. of known wells in parish.	Premises supplied by pipe & from public main			Private piped supplies & C.C.(ø) supplies.	Samples of private supply.			
		By meter	In-doors.	Stand pipe.		Satis.	Un-Satis.	Suspi-cious.	% Un-Satis.
Ampton.	12					1		2	67
Bardwell.	43						4	1	100
Barrow.	37	7	26	71		1	5		83
Barton Great.	40				20 ø	2	4		67
Barnham.	21					1	3		75
Barningham.	14		8				3		100
Bradfield Combust.	12	9	4	15					
Bradfield St.Clare.	19						3		100
Bradfield St.George.	12	3	19	12		3	7	1	72
Brockley.	17					1	2		67
Chedburgh.	20						1		100
Chevington.	25					4	8		67
Coney Weston.	17						3		100
Culford.	7				17	2	1		33
Denham.	4	1	1	7					
Euston.	11								
Fakenham Magna.	6					2	1		33
Flempton.	10					1	4		80
Fornham All Saints.	2					1	2		67
Fornham St.Genevieve	3								
Fornham St.Martin.	8						1		100
Hardwick.	1								
Hargrave.	14					1	9		90
Hawstead.	13					1	2		67
Hengrave.	15				14				
Hepworth.	40					1	3		75
Honington.	13					3	1		25
Hopton.	14						3		100
Horringer.	38						1		100
Ickworth.	2					1	1		50
Ingham.	8	2	18	26		2	2		50
Ixworth.	60	7	71	124		2	1	2	60
Knettishall.	6								
Lackford.	15						7		100
Livermere Great.	11					2	1		33
Livermere Little.	6								
Market Weston.	21				3 ø	1	3		75
Nowton.	8					1	1		50
Pakenham.	48					1	4		80
Rede.	10					1			0
Risby.	10					1		2	67
Rougham.	52	1	23	6		5	22	3	87
Rushbrooke.	5								
Sapiston.	5					1	5		87
Saxham Great.	3	4	3	16			1		100
Saxham Little.	13					1			0
Stanningfield.	12	10	17	26					
Stanton.	43						9		100
Stow West.	24								
Thelnetham.	15				4		3		100
Thorpe.	10					3	1		25
Timworth.	4						1		100
Troston.	18					3	3		50
Westley.	6								
Whelnetham Great.	14	8	7	49		3			0
Whelnetham Little.	8	1	7	6		1			0
Whepstead.	46		2	10		2	6		75
Wordwell.	8								
	979	53	206	368	58	56	142	11	67.9

NOTE: PREMISES SUPPLIED BY METER ARE INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS (FARMS, BAKEHOUSES, etc.)

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. Considerable progress was made with the provision of a sewerage scheme at Whelnetham, into which the Minister of Health had caused an inquiry to be held in 1946.

The preliminary work in connection with a similar sewerage scheme for Barrow was accomplished during 1947 and tenders accepted,

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS. No change.

3. (i) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. Three vault closets were converted to pail closets during the year and in five cases repairs or renewals effected in existing houses (exclusive of Council Houses).

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING. The Refuse Collection Scheme inaugurated in 1946 was continued throughout 1947. It was found necessary and possible to increase the collection at Ixworth from a fortnightly collection to a weekly collection, and at Great Barton from a monthly to a fortnightly collection.

During 1947 the Council agreed to the purchase of a second refuse collection vehicle to enable more frequent collections to be made.

The amount of this service is indicated in the following table:-

Collection.					Salvage.		
Month.	Milage.	Volume cu.yds.	Salvage Value £.Ss.	Paper cwts.	Bottles doz.	Scrap cwts	Rags cwts.
January.	563	216	2.11.	12	-	-	-
February.	493	198	6.11.	9	-	45	-
March.	541	197	3. 8.	4	52	-	-
April.	554	281	1.12.	8	-	-	-
May.	625	244	2. 6.	6	-	14	-
June.	627	254	1. 4.	6	-	-	-
July.	672	238	-	-	-	-	-
August.	571	233	9.12.	21	53	-	-
September.	486	178	7. 5.	19	28	-	1
October.	765	235	13. 8.	22	49.5	44	-
November.	767	239	10. 9.	19½	60	-	.75
December.	656	198	13.16.	38	41	22	-
Total 1947.	7,420	2,711	71.19.	164½	283.5	125	1.75
Total 1946 (May to Dec. only).	4,845	1,365		49½	31.0	0.9	-

The service was suspended for one week during September for workmen's holiday.

A contract was signed with effect from 1st September, 1947, for the rights of sorting the Council's tips for a sum of £50 per annum.

Salvage from paper, scrap, etc.	£71. 19. 0
Tip contract (4 months)	16. 13. 4
Total:	£88. 12. 4

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The Council have taken advantage of every opportunity for post-war activity. This has meant a considerable increase in the work of Mr. Casson and Mr. Barker, (Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor and Additional Sanitary Inspector), and as consequently mentioned in my previous Annual Report, it has not been possible for these Officers to accomplish all the routine work thought desirable.

Mr. Casson has supplied the following table which gives the number of inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and the progress of notices served.

PUBLIC HEALTH.	Defects found.	Visits made.	Prelim: Notices.	Complied with.
Cesspools.	4	11	4	4
Sanitary Accommodation.	5	8	5	5
Refuse tips & Accumulations.	4	29	4	4
Verminous premises.	9	12	-	9
Disinfestations.	-	12	-	-
Dirty premises.	4	7	4	4
Infectious Diseases.	-	11	-	-
Disinfections.	-	12	-	-
Tents, vans and sheds.	-	9	1	-
Factories & Bakehouses.	2	17	2	2
Drains and ditches.	9	63	9	4
Sources of water supply.	78	142	4	3
Schools.	1	4	1	-
Squatters Sites.	-	59	-	-
Totals:	116	396	34	35
		Visits		
		396 as above		
Public Water Supplies.				
Pumping Stations.		22		
Defective Drains		23		
New Mains.		12		
New Connections		49		
Meter Reading.		119		
Miscellaneous Visits.				
Requisitioning inspections.		13		
Council Houses.		23		
Accomm: Survey.		281		
Civil Building Licencing.		66		
New Buildings: (Non-Council House)		257		
All plans approved / Commenced New buildings / Completed				
86 / 30 / 16				
Total Visits:		1,261		

FACTORY ACT, 1937. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total:	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

FACTORY ACT, 1937. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	45	15	2	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	16	2	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	61	17	2	Nil

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES. No visits were made to shops and offices.

(v) CAMPING SITES. Three sites were licensed during the year - one at Barnham, one at Stanton and one at Bardwell. Nine visits were made to these sites.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT. No action.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS. Nil.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. Two houses in Ixworth were found to be bug infested and in both cases disinfestation was carried out by the Council staff with "Zaldecide D.D.T." with good results. Re-inspection at intervals after three months produced no sign of recurrence.

(ix) COCKROACH INFESTATION. There were no cases reported or treated during the year.

(x) RODENT CONTROL. Miss F. Williams, Pest Officer to the District, has supplied the following notes:-

A Block Rodent Control Scheme was undertaken by the Council commencing January 1947. This scheme provided systematic rat disinfestation. Heavily rat infested villages were given preference for treatment and 16 parishes were visited. Co-operation between the Rodent Control Staff of the Agricultural Executive Committee and this department was sought and farms and private premises were treated en bloc wherever possible. All premises were treated with the sanction and co-operation of the occupier and charges to business premises made accordingly. The operation of the scheme for householders was free of charge in order to encourage co-operation and this proved an inducement, occupiers being more willing to allow access to premises and subsequent treatment than hitherto. Owing to extremely severe weather conditions from January to March progress was rather slow. The training of an Assistant was undertaken. A time extension of the Scheme was applied for and the campaign was carried on throughout the more pleasant months.

In 1947 the number of infestations treated was 300, 700 rats were found and the estimated kill was 2,000.

Types of premises visited were Pig and Poultry Holdings, Service Camps and N.A.A.F.I., Schools, Shops, Prive Dwellings, Refuse Tips, Factories, Cesspools, Drains, Sewage, Ditches, Caravan, and Police Station.

REFUSE TIPS. Routine inspection and treatment of Refuse Tips was made. A spraying was carried out to keep insect pests under control. The liquid dessing proved to be more efficient and economical than D.D.T. Powder.

R.A.F. SHEPHERDS GROVE, STANTON. Rat disinfestment was requested by the Commanding Officer of the above Station. A survey of the area was made and blocks planned for treatment. Labour was provided and German P.O.W. proved to be enthusiastic rat catchers.

The results of disinfestment of 6 blocks comprising 545 points at which 2,180 ozs. of poison were laid were 1,090 ozs. of poison were taken and 226 bodies were found.

Inspections and post-baits were carried out and "Cymag" gassing of re-opened holes. The campaign was reported by the Commanding Officer as being extremely successful.

SCHOOLS. Four visits were made to schools to check water and sanitary arrangements arising from which a new urinal stall was provided.

SECTION D.

H O U S I N G.

1. (1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) — 282

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose — 573

(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925. — 24

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose — 24

(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. — 105

(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation — 144

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers — 129

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs — Nil

(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:-

(a) By Owners — 1 (from 1946)

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners — Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied — 14

(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By Owners — 9

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners — Nil

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which

(a) Demolition Orders were made — 14

(b) Undertakings accepted not to relet for human habitation — 4

(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. — 16

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	13
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	15
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	109
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	4
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	5
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	44
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority having taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

56 houses which have been condemned or are the subject of undertakings not to relet were occupied under licence during 1947. These houses, together with a considerable number of similar houses, still occupied by the original occupier present a very difficult problem in the matter of repairs. The Council have, however, insisted that such dwellings be maintained "wind and water-tight" until such time as more suitable accommodation can be provided.

The post-war progress in the provision of houses in Thingoe is indicated in the following table:-

Local Authority.	Post-War Period up to end of 1945.	1946.	1947.
Council Houses.			
Tenders approved by Ministry of Health	Nil	136	182
" " Under construction	Nil	62	98
" " Completed	Nil	6	80
Hutments converted by Local Authority.			
Family units provided	-	37	41
" " under construction	-	22	21
Private Enterprise.			
Licences for new houses issued	-	20	36
Houses under construction	-	13	14
Houses completed	-	7	17

It will be noted that subsequent to hostilities and up to 31st December, 1947, the Council had completed the building of 80 houses, private individuals had completed 17 and to these 97 houses had been added accommodation for a further 41 families in hutments. Thus some kind of a home had been provided for 138 families.

This building progress, although it is the result of the Council taking advantage of every opportunity offered to it, is wellnigh infinitesimal in comparison with the housing needs of the District. It is apparent that many years will elapse before the housing needs can be met and for that reason the Government decision, to cease providing some financial inducement in order to recondition existing cottages and thereby provide modern amenities, is inflicting years of hardship on some rural tenants.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

Registered Cowkeepers.	T.T.	39
" "	Accredited	17
" "	Ungraded	122
	Total:	178

Wholesale Producers	80
Retail Purveyors	22
Producer Retailers	76
Total:	178

34 visits were made to the cowsheds and dairies necessitating the service of 3 notices, of which 3 had been complied with at the end of the year.

An increased desire, noted in the previous Annual Report, to become designated producers was continued during 1947, and again much work was done in conjunction with the County Milk Officer in advising on reconstructions and requirements.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

As in other years there has been no regular slaughtering in the district, due to the centralisation of slaughtering, with the result that fewer visits have been necessary at slaughterhouses.

Summary of Visits to Food Premises.

	Visits.	Notices.
Slaughterhouses.	4	-
Butchers Shops.	5	-
Fish Friers.	5	1
Ice-cream.	2	-
Total:	16	1

124 lbs. of beef were surrendered as being unfit for human consumption.

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.
(d) CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.
(e) NUTRITION.
(f) SHELL-FISH (Mollescan)
(g) WATER CRESS.

NO CHANGE.

SECTION E.

PREVALENCE OF & CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of Infectious Diseases among the civilian population during the year. These are the final numbers after corrections subsequently made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital. It will be noted that the total number is 166 - the corresponding figure for 1946 was 83. Six patients were removed to Isolation Hospital - one a Cerebrospinal Meningitis which died, four Scarlet Fever and one Meningeal Mumps.

ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING 1947.

	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Acute Polio-myelitis.		Measles.		Acute Pneumonia.		Erysipelas		Cerebro-Spinal Fever.		Infective Hepatitis	
TOTAL: 166.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	9	12	11	10	1	-	53	57	3	2	-	2	1	-	4	1
Age 0 to under 1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 " " 3	-	-	2	4	-	-	7	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
3 " " 5	3	2	5	-	-	-	6	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 " " 10	5	6	3	4	1	-	29	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
10 " " 15	1	3	-	2	-	-	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 " " 25	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-
25 " " 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
45 " " 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
65 & over.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-

246 children (208 age 0-4 years and 38 age 5-14) completed Diphtheria Immunisation during 1947. 232 children previously immunised were given a Secondary or Reinforcing Injection. At the end of the year it was estimated that 54% of the children under 5 years of age and 93% of children between 5 and 15 years had completed the Diphtheria Immunisation Course.

T U B E R C U L O S I S.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1947.

Years.	New Cases. Respiratory. M.	F.	Non-Respiratory. M.	F.	Deaths. Respiratory. M.	F.	Non-Respiratory. M.	F.
0-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-24	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-34	1	2	1	-	-	1	-	-
35-44	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55-64	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-
65 & over	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	3	5	1	-	3	2	-	-

59 cases remained on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year, Respiratory Male 19, Female 23, and Non-Respiratory Male 8, Female 9.